



March 21, 2011

EX PARTE

Ms. Marlene Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Developing a Unified Intercarrier Compensation Regime, CC Docket No. 01-92; High-Cost Universal Service Support, WC Docket No. 05-337; Establishing Just and Reasonable Rates for Local Exchange Carriers, WC Docket No. 07-135; Connect America Fund, WC Docket No. 10-90; A National Broadband Plan for Our Future, GN Docket No. 09-51; Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, CC Docket No. 96-45; Lifeline and Link-Up, WC Docket No. 03-109

Dear Ms. Dortch:

This is to notify you that on March 17, 2011, Michael Rhoda and Eric Einhorn (Windstream), Joel Lubin (AT&T), Maggie McCready (Verizon), and the undersigned representing USTelecom, met with FCC staff Amy Bender, Rebekah Goodheart, Zachary Katz, Patrick Halley, Sharon Gillett, and Elise Cohn, to discuss reforms contemplated by the Commission's recent NPRM and FNPRM to modernize and streamline universal service cited above.

We discussed the need for a fund designed to support explicitly the delivery of broadband and voice services in high-cost areas as efficiently as possible and stressed the importance of matching funding with the specific broadband objectives that would be contemplated by such a fund. Relatively rapid movement to reform intercarrier compensation and move legacy support to an explicit broadband fund would help provide certainty to industry. Of course, careful transitions as contemplated by the recent NPRM and FNPRM are essential to this shift. We also discussed the important role that industry efforts to construct consensus proposals could play in facilitating universal service and intercarrier compensation reforms.

Pursuant to Commission rules, please include this notice in the dockets for the proceedings identified above.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jonathan Banks".

Jonathan Banks

c: Amy Bender
Rebekah Goodheart
Zachary Katz
Patrick Halley
Sharon Gillett
Elise Cohn